

Discipline Writing Assignment

Below is a detailed list and explanation of why certain behaviors are not allowed in Band. Students will copy this during class or at home if they are not following the band rules.

- A responsible individual does not interrupt classroom procedures and disturb the band director or fellow students in the following ways:
 - Chewing gum, throwing paper, erasers, pencils, etc., talking out of turn, not paying attention, whispering to other students, making unnecessary noises, refusing to follow directions, and talking back to the director(s) are some of the ways in which an individual may disturb class.
 - Other infractions include giggling, writing notes, marking on furniture or music stands, coming to class tardy, humming, singing, whistling, punching fellow students or hitting others with pencils or other objects.
- Some students may question how all of these actions are interpreted as misbehavior. For example, let's discuss talking during rehearsal, which is the most common infraction:
 - Many students are actually trying to help the Band by telling their neighbors what they have missed or how to count a particular musical passage.
 - Others may be asking where they are in the music, how to finger a note, or what a particular musical term means.
 - Still others are simply excited about the music or are merely voicing their exuberance.
 - A few students are talking for no musical purpose at all. They may be discussing upcoming social plans or assignments in other classes.
- Many people think that talking about the music is acceptable, while talking about other things is not and should be forbidden.
 - However, it is impossible for the director to tell what you are discussing, and in any case, **ALL TALKING IS DISTURBING TO THE REHEARSAL AND TO THE BAND DIRECTOR.**
 - Also, if everyone in the Band tries to help his or her neighbor, there is no opportunity for the trained professional, the band director, to do his or her job.
 - In such a case, there would be no cohesion to the music, nor any discipline in the Band.
 - Thus, even though much conversation really is music-oriented, it is disturbing to the band director and is a distraction to the Band.
 - The only solution to this problem is to insist that students **NOT TALK IN CLASS.**
- Just as there are necessary laws that govern the citizens of a nation, there are also necessary rules and policies within every large organization, including the public schools.
- No one wishes to impose regulation on a group simply for the sake of following its members to do some things that are enjoyable, but rather for the purpose of maintaining adequate control to the end that the purpose of the organization will be achieved.
- Nothing will be asked of you in this Band that is unreasonable or unnecessary.
- We want you to do your work well and enjoy Band, but we insist that you behave and be quiet. **NO PRIVATE CONVERSATIONS.**
 - To do this, you must conform to the rules and regulations of this school and those of the society in which we live.
- It is true that some of the most cooperative students occasionally are guilty of some of the infractions mentioned, however, a minority of the students commit most infractions.
 - You are not in that category yet - perhaps copying this paper will encourage you to remain out of that category by helping you improve your behavior.
- The band rules are as follows: no chewing anything, keep your hands and feet to yourself, no private conversations, play instruments as a group only; only percussionists may play percussion instruments, do not lean on the music stands, and **EARLY IS ON TIME AND ON TIME IS LATE.**

I realize this essay is due the next class day after it was assigned, and that one of my parents must sign my handwritten copy.

Parent Signature _____

Date _____